

HA-1658

United States Post Office
Perryman, Maryland

Capsule-Summary

This small but graceful building was constructed in 1914 as a post office for the village of Perryman. It was common practice in the 19th century to locate a post office in a store, so construction of this building marks a departure from the usual. It is one of the few remaining village post offices left in an older building in Harford County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

United States Post Office--Perryman Station

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

428 Michelsville Road

CITY, TOWN

Perryman

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☒ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Laura McComas Lee

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 65

CITY, TOWN

Perryman

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21130

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-1637

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This structure is located on the south side of Michaelsville Road slightly north of the intersection with Railroad Avenue. The building faces northeast and is one story high. It is of frame construction and has a hipped roof and rests on a concrete foundation. It is two bays wide at the front (northeast) with a doorway in the south bay, and three bays long, with the last bay being a shed roof addition. The roof overhangs the front elevation to create a sheltered porch, and the roof is supported by posts with chamfered posts with chamfered edges and tops and bottoms cut to represent simple bases and capitals. The porch is partially enclosed at the top by vertical planking above the level of the supporting posts. The exterior has asbestos shingles and a roof of asphalt shingles. The raised porch deck is of wooden planking.

The interior has been greatly altered over the years, but it still retains a wainscot of 2" varnished planking. All other original fabric has been removed.

The postmaster here, Mrs. Laura McComas Lee said that her father Isaac S. Lee owned the sawmill where the lumber for this post office was cut. The structure was erected in 1914 specifically for use as a post office. The builder is not known.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

NA-1659

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES built 1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Perryman is a small village tucked away in a quiet section of the County that abuts the Aberdeen Proving Ground. It is only a short distance from the busy Route 40 corridor, and high speed train tracks run right through the center of the settlement, but Perryman, surrounded as it is by farming fields, has the look of a rural outpost. One of the buildings usually associated with small villages is the post office, and today unlike some of Harford County's cross road villages (Federal Hill, Prospect and Dublin) Perryman still has its own branch. Apparently the first post office came to Perryman between 1858 and 1878, since the Hartnet map of the later date indicates the village as "Perryman P.O." and one building is identified as "Store & P.O.". The present structure continues an aspect of small town living that is rapidly disappearing in the face of modern efficiency.

Despite its small size and lack of exterior decoration, this post office building shows an awareness of style for the period in which it was built. The hipped roof gained favor with the advent of the Colonial Revival in the late 19th century, and the ~~XXXXX~~ choice of this roof type is an interesting one. It also harmonizes nicely with the office building of the P.O. Mitchell Co. across the street (NA-1659) although it is not known which building was constructed first. Also, the posts supporting the roof are not the turned "Victorian" type, but are more closely identified with a sort of simple classicism. Whoever designed this structure had an acquaintance with prevailing architectural fashions.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Phillip Lord Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning DATE June 1981

STREET & NUMBER 45 South Main Street TELEPHONE 833-8000 X 235

CITY OR TOWN Bel Air STATE Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HA - 1658

Describe the Present & Original. etc.
section —

2nd # Isaac S. Lee was
not Laura McComas Lee's father. He
was her father-in-law.

I know cause Isaac Saylor Lee
was my grand father; Laura
McComas Lee was my Aunt by
marriage to my father's brother
Harry.

Sallie Lee Van Rensselaer

June 10, 1992

HA-1658



HA-1658

PERRYMAN Post Office
Perryman, MD

PRL-4-81

NE Elev.

